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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,509	03/11/2004	Samuel A. Massey	200312726-1	6401
22879	7590	10/06/2006	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			NGUYEN, LAMSON D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2861	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

A

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/798,509	Applicant(s) MASSEY, SAMUEL A.	
	Examiner Lamson D. Nguyen	Art Unit 2861	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on restriction election dated 07/26/06.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 49 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25, 29-38, 47-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 26-28 and 39-46 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/11/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-48 in the reply filed on 07/26/06 is acknowledged.

Claim Objections

Claims 7, 10, 15, 22, 25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 7, "the first edge" lacks antecedent basis
- Claim 10, "the launching structure", "the first portion", "the first segment" lack antecedent basis
- Claim 15, "the first end wall" lacks antecedent basis.
- Claims 22, 25, "the launching structure" lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

The applicant is advised to look at claims 28-48 for the same objections as stated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 10-25, 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- **Claims 10, 25**, it is not clear what “the edge” and “the launching structure” are. Specifically, it’s not clear how structurally they are related to the structure of claim 1.
- **Claim 15**, it is not clear how “the first end wall” and a “second end wall” are related structurally to the structure of claim 1.
- **Claim 16**, it is not clear what “the end walls” are. It is not clear if the applicant means to say that “the walls” are “the first wall” and “the second walls” or they are different walls.
- **Claim 20**, it is not clear how the first and second channels are structurally related to the edge of the structure of claim 1. In other words, it is not clear where the first and second channels are positioned in the structure, in this case, the platen.
- **Claim 38**, it is not clear how the edge segments are structurally related to the edge of the structure in claim 28.

The applicant is advised to look at claims 28-48 for the same rejections as stated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9, 28-37, 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Otsuki (US 2002/0070991).

Otsuki teaches an inkjet printer comprising:

Claim 1:

- a printhead along a media path having a first width (figure 1, head 28)
- a structure having an edge extending across a majority of the first width of the media width (figure 1, platen 26 extending through the width of the media width)

Claim 2:

- an ink recipient extending across the media path (figure 1, ink cavities 26f and 26r; paragraph 116 teaches the width of cavities 26f and 26r is greater than the maximum width of the print paper which means these cavities must extend across the media path)

Claim 3:

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- the ink recipient includes an ink receiving cavity (figure 1 teaches ink cavities 26f and r)

Claim 4:

- including an ink absorbent material within the ink receiving cavity (figure 1, ink absorbent material 27f and r)

Claim 5:

- wherein the edge extends substantially cross the media path (figure 1, platen 26 extending across the printhead which prints on a medium)

Claim 6:

- wherein the edge extends perpendicular to the media path (figure 1)

Claim 7:

- Including a tapered surface adjacent the first edge and configured to left a leading edge of a medium (figure 1 teaches a gap between the edge and the landing, represented by cavity 26f, where a part of the paper does not contact collected ink the in ink cavity)

Claim 8:

- a landing opposite the edge, wherein the ink receiving cavity extends between the first edge and the landing (figure 1)

Claim 9:

- wherein the first edge and the landing are spaced to substantially prevent a portion of a medium from making contact collected ink of the ink recipient (figure 1 teaches a gap between the edge and the landing, represented by cavity 26f, where a part of the paper does not contact collected ink the in ink cavity)

Claim 28:

- a platen having an edge configured to extend across a majority of a width of a media path while contacting a print medium (figure 1, platen 26 extending across printhead 28 which prints on paper P)

Claim 29:

- One structure forming an ink receiving ink cavity having a width extending across the media path (figure 1, ink cavities 26f and 26r)

Claim 30:

- including an ink absorbent material within the ink receiving cavity (figure 1, absorbent material 27f and 27r)

Claim 31:

- the structure and the edge are integrally formed as part of a single unitary body (figure 1)

Claim 32:

- a landing opposite the edge, wherein the ink cavity extends between the first edge and the landing (figure 1 teaches a gap between the edge and the landing, represented by cavity 26f, where a part of the paper does not contact collected ink the in ink cavity)

Claim 33:

- wherein the edge and the landing are spaced to substantially prevent a portion of the medium from making contact with the collected ink in the ink cavity (figure 1 teaches a gap between the edge and the landing, represented by cavity 26f, where a part of the paper does not contact collected ink the in ink cavity)

Claim 34:

- wherein the edge extends substantially across the media path (figure 1, platen 26 extends through printhead 28 which prints on paper P)

Claim 35:

- wherein the edge extends perpendicular to the media path (figure 1)

Claim 36:

- a tapered surface adjacent the edge and configured to lift the leading edge of the media (figure 1 teaches a gap between the edge and the landing, represented by cavity 26f, where a part of the paper does not contact collected ink the in ink cavity)

Claim 37:

- the edge has a plurality of edge segments (figure 8)

Claim 47:

- an edge configured to contact an underside of a medium along a media path, wherein the edge extends across a majority of a width of the media path (figure 1, platen 26 extends across printhead 28 which prints on paper P)

Claim 48:

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- a printhead along a media path and proximate to a print zone having a first width across the media path (figure 1, printhead 28)
- an ink recipient extending at least partially across the media path adjacent the print zone (figure 1, platen 26 having an ink recipient cavity 27)
- means for elevating a medium over the ink recipient while substantially preventing overspray from depositing upon a bottom side of the medium (figure 1 teaches a slanted surface where P first comes onto the platen)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-25 and 38 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 26-28 and 39-46 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lamson D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2259. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vip Patel can be reached on 571-272-2458. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


LAMSON NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
09/12/06

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